



Newfoundland and Labrador Dental Association
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Good Morning,

Here are the current updates regarding COVID-19 as of this morning, March 20th:

- A message from Morneau Shepell Ltd.
 - “We would like to make you aware of some telecommunications issues in Canada which you may have experienced yourself in recent days. As reported in the media, Canadian communications providers are experiencing challenges with some telephony systems. There is congestion in their voice core network that is impacting access to toll-free lines. We are aware that some callers to our contact centre have had difficulties getting through to us.

We want to assure you that we are working closely with our partners to address the issues, and do want to apologize. It has been our experience that where this impacts the ability to connect, with a repeated effort, often the call will go through. Where these issues persist, we would like to remind clients that we are also available through online chat. We are fully staffed and have our intake professionals ready to support you.

Thank you for your understanding.”

- Yesterday evening, Dr. Ed Williams asked that we send the message below:
 - “Attendee at major dental conference in Vancouver tests positive for COVID-19
In light of recent news surrounding the Pacific Dental Convention held in Vancouver, British Columbia March 5-7, I would like to confirm the protocol that is expected from dental personnel who attended this gathering or who have been in contact with a colleague or associate having attended:
 - This is considered an international gathering.
 - Dentists or associated dental/accompanying personnel should be in self-isolation for fourteen days or if not to start immediately.
 - The COVID-19 Information is available on-line;

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/>

- Contact 811 if you develop a fever, cough or have difficulty breathing.

Thank you for your attention to this news.

Dr. Ed Williams”

- Chief Medical Officer, Janice Fitzgerald, gave an update yesterday afternoon saying that there are no new cases in NL; however, one out of three of the presumptive cases were confirmed positive.
- To see a list of business closures across Newfoundland and Labrador you can visit: <https://newsinteractives.cbc.ca/localcovid19/?region=NL>
- **WHO Now Officially Recommends to Avoid Taking Ibuprofen For COVID-19 Symptoms.** *sciencealert.com, March 17:* The World Health Organization recommended Tuesday that people suffering COVID-19 symptoms avoid taking ibuprofen, after French officials warned that anti-inflammatory drugs could worsen effects of the virus. [Read more](#)

Kind Regards,

Amanda Squires on behalf of Dr. Paul Hurley, President of the NLDA

If you have any questions you can contact myself, the Manager of Communications and Members Relations with the NLDA, via email Amanda.nlda@nfld.net or phone: 709-685-4420.